

FORM PTO-1449		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 1232-4465	SERIAL NO. 09/139,709		
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center; justify-content: center;"> <div style="border: 2px solid black; border-radius: 50%; padding: 10px; text-align: center; margin-right: 10px;"> <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b>              DEC 02 1999              PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE           </div> <div>             (Use several sheets if necessary)           </div> </div>				APPLICANT Shoji Kikuchi			
				FILING DATE August 26, 1998		GROUP ART UNIT 2722 2672	
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
mw		4,860,115	8/22/89	Ogura	358	443	
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES      NO
mw		EP 0 729 261 A	8/28/96	Europe	1	1	X
mw		EP 0 641 115 A	3/1/95	Europe	1	1	X
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Papers, Etc.)</b>							
		European Search Report, dated 10/18/99.					
EXAMINER		MARK WALLERSON PATENT EXAMINER mw			DATE CONSIDERED 11/16/2000		
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

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